

March 9, 2005

Harry Stoller
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capital Ave
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Mr. Stoller:

We write in response to the request for public comment concerning the implementation of Governor Blagojevich's proposal for a sustainable energy plan for Illinois. We strongly support sustainable energy production in Illinois, and we endorse the Governor's plan.

Annual energy expenditures in the State of Illinois now exceed \$30.1 billion dollars. How energy is produced, how it is used, and how it can be conserved—is a critically important issue for the residents and businesses of Illinois. The conservation of energy has important economic development implications with demonstrable environmental and human health benefits. With these important issues in mind, we applaud the Governor's efforts to conserve energy, introduce renewable energy technologies and reduce this state's reliance on fossil fuels, and we encourage the adoption and speedy implementation of the Governor's sustainable energy plan.

At the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign we committed to the ideas expressed in the Governor's energy plan. We are pleased to work with the State through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to help Illinois businesses reduce their energy consumption. The attached report highlights progress we have made in the development of a Smart Energy Design Assistance Center. We are currently in the process of expanding this work to reach a broader segment of the Illinois business community, helping them reduce their energy consumption and expenditures to help create new economic development opportunities in the state. Per the Governor's plan, the \$10M in energy efficiency funding for DCEO will be very important in helping to prime the pump on energy efficiency programs and technologies that may eventually apply for direct support from utilities per their energy efficiency RFPs. The DCEO efficiency funding in combination with the RFPs produce a balanced energy efficiency portfolio for the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Governor's Sustainable Energy plan. We find it innovative and important for the entire state. It has our full recommendation and backing.

Cordially,



David Chasco
Director, School of Architecture



David Schejbal
Associate Vice Chancellor
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

c. M. Mishoe